MINUTES

OF THE

SYNOD OF SOUTH CAROLINA,

HELD AT

CHESTER, S. C.,

OCTOBER 20—24, 1869.

COLUMBIA, S. C.
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1869.

MINUTES.

CHESTER, Oct. 20th, 1869.

The Synod of South Carolina met according to adjournment, at 7 o'clock p. m., in the Presbyterian church, and was opened with a sermon by the Moderator, Rev. A. A. Morse, on Acts ix. 6: "Lord, what wilt thou have me to do?"

After sermon, the Synod was constituted with prayer by the Moderator.

The roll was called, and the following members were present, viz.:

PRESBYTERY OF SOUTH CAROLINA.

Ministers.	*Ruling Elders.*	*Churches.*
E. T. Buist, D. D.,	A. Walker,	Good Hope and Roberts,
S. Donnelly,	J. Birnie,	Washington St. (Greenv'e,)
R. H. Reid,	M. L. Sharpe,	Hopewell, (Pendleton,)
J. O. Lindsay,	J. E. Savage,	Fairview,
A. A. Morse,	A. M. Blake,	Rock,
T. H. Law,	F. S. Anderson,	Nazareth,
W. H. Stratton.	A. O. Norris,	Anderson C. H.,
	G. McD. Miller,	Abbeville,
	J. M'Lintock, (3)	Laurens C. H.

PRESBYTERY OF BETHEL.

Ministers.	*Ruling Elders.*	*Churches.*
J. H. Saye,	Jonas Rader,	Fishing Creek,
W. Banks,	R. Sandifer,	Catholic & Pleasant Grove,
W. W. Carothers,	J. S. Story,	Fairforest & Grindal Shoals,
J. E. White,	R. G. Davidson,	Salem,
T. W. Erwin,	A. Burns,	Beersheba,
A. A. James,	J. F. Davidson,	Cedar Shoals,
H. R. Dickson,	J. C. Caldwell,	Mt Olivet and Concord,
W. W. Ratchford,	James Hemphill,	Purity, (Chester,)
James Douglass,	A. Hood, (2)	Olivet,
John L. Wilson,	W. M. Guy, (3)	Zion and Bethesda,
R. E. Cooper,	J. F. Carothers,	Ebenezer,
D. Harrison,	J. J. Wilson,	Bethel,
J. N. Craig, (2)	H. H. Gooch,	Douglas, Waxhaw & Lancasterville,
J. M. Anderson, (3)	D. T. Partlow,	Allison Creek and Beth-Shiloh,
	R. S. Wilson,	Unity.

Presbytery of Harmony.

Ministers.	*Ruling Elders.*	*Churches.*
P. Pierson,	Wm. Harris,	Salem (B. R.),
D. McQueen,	D. B. McLaurin,	Sumter,
D. E. Frierson,	J. B. Jennings,	Bennettsville,
S. H. Hay,	R. J. McCreight,	Camden,
G. W. Boggs,	W. M. Scott,	Mt. Zion,
J. A. Cousar,	W. S. Brand,	Midway,
James McDowell,	John Blakeley,	Brewington and Manning.
J. G. Richards,	R. B. Cunningham,	Liberty Hill,
W. B. Corbett,	Thos. Lauderdale,	Salem (L. R.),
W. A. Gregg,	R. R. Rosborough,	Aimwell,
G. R. Brackett,	J. R. Aiken,	Scion, (Winnsboro',)
E. H. Buist,	J. W. Ashford.	Lebanon and Horeb.
J. R. Dow,		
W. W. Mills,		
W. S. Plumer, D. D., (3)		
J. L. Wilson, D. D., (3)		
J. D. A. Brown. (3)		

Presbytery of Charleston.

Ministers.	*Ruling Elders.*	*Churches.*
Geo. Howe, D. D.,	E. Stenhouse,	Columbia,
J. B. Mack,	T. A. Elliott,	Orangeburg,
W. E. Boggs,	Jas. H. Taylor.	Zion, (Charleston).
Geo. J. Porter,		
J. L. Girardeau, D.D. (3)		

MINISTERS ABSENT AND CHURCHES NOT REPRESENTED.

Presbytery of South Carolina.

Ministers.—J. L. Kennedy, W. Carlile, J. B. Adger, D. D., D. McNeill Turner, D. D., W. McWhorter, W. H. Davis, J. F. Gibert, Z. L. Holmes, C. B. Stewart, John McLees, J. B. Hillhouse, E. F. Hyde, W. P. Gready, W. F. Pearson, J. R. Riley, Hugh McLees, W. P. Jacobs, R. A. Mickle, S. J. Price, A. P. Nicholson.

Churches not Represented.—Carmel, Williamston, Mt. Bethel, Lebanon and Bethia, Retreat, Richland, Nazareth (B. D.), Upper Long Cane, Broadaway, Honea Path, Bethesda, Bethany, Friendship, Rocky Spring, Clinton, Duncan's Creek, New Harmony, Greenville, Mt. Zion, Midway, Hopewell, Lodimont, Willington, Antioch, Pickens C. H., Rocky River, Bethel, Tugaloo, Little Mountain and Varennes, Providence, Liberty Spring, Ninety-Six, Aveleigh, Mt. Tabor, Mt. Calvary, Smyrna, Little River, Shady Grove, Gilder's Creek, Spartanburg, North Pacolet, Warrior's Creek, Walhalla.

Presbytery of Bethel.

Ministers Absent.—S. L. Watson, J. R. Baird, J. S. Bailey, L. W. Curtis, R. McCoy.

Churches not Represented.—Cane Creek, Carmel Hill, Union, Bullock's Creek, Hephzibah, Hopewell, Mt. Tabor, Harmony, Shiloh, Six Mile Creek, Unionville, Yorkville.

PRESBYTERY OF HARMONY.

Ministers Absent.—W. Brearley, W. M. Reid, G. Morgan, H. M. Brearley, D. McDuffie, J. L. Bartlett, J. E. Dunlop, N. W. Edmonds.

Churches not Represented.—Beulah, Bishopville and Hephzibah, Beaver Creek, Carolina and Red Bluff, Centre Point, Cheraw, Concord, Darlington, Elon, Great Pee Dee, Hermon, Hopewell, Indian Town, Little Pee Dee, Lynchburg, Florence, Marion C. H., Pine Tree, Pisgah, Reedy Creek, Kingston, Union, Turkey Creek, White Oak, Williamsburg.

CHARLESTON PRESBYTERY.

Ministers Absent.—A. W. Leland, D. D., W. S. Lee, J. Forrest, D. D., T. Smyth, D. D., I. S. K. Legare, T. H. Legare, D. X. Lafar, W. B. Yates, W. C. Dana.

Churches not Represented.—2nd Church, Charleston; Central Church, James' Island, Stoney Creek, John's Island and Wadmalaw, Walterboro', Beech Island, Summerville, Wilton, Aiken, Barnwell.

The Rev. D. E. Frierson was elected moderator; Rev. J. B. Mack, temporary clerk; and Rev. W. A. Gregg, assistant clerk.

On motion of Rev. J. E. White, Synod resolved to commence its daily sessions at 9 o'clock a. m., and close them at 3 p. m.; with religious services at 11 a. m., and at 7 p. m.

Synod then adjourned, with prayer by the moderator, to meet to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock.

THURSDAY MORNING, 9 o'clock.

Synod met and spent a half hour in devotional exercises.

The minutes of last evening were read and approved.

Rev. Messrs. John Douglas, R. Z. Johnston and J. H. Colton, of the Synod of North Carolina, and Rev. Professor Lane, of the Synod of Georgia, being present, were invited to sit as corresponding members.

Professor Lane stated that he was appointed, by the trustees of Oglethorpe College, to confer with the Synod of South Carolina, in reference to the present condition of this institution.

Rev. Hugh McLees, Rev. John McLees, and Rev. J. B. Adger, D. D., were, by letter, excused for absence from the present meeting of Synod.

The moderator then announced the following Standing Committees:

On Religious Services.—J. E. White and J. Hemphill.

Minutes of General Assembly.—W. A. Gregg, W. W. Ratchford, and J. H. Taylor.

Judiciary.—E. T. Buist, D. D., H. R. Dickson, J. G. Richards, J. Hemphill, and A. O. Norris.

Finance.—J. R. Aiken, E. Stenhouse, and R. G. Davidson.

Bills and Overtures.—D. McQueen, G. Howe, D. D., and Dr. J. B. Jennings.

Narrative.—T. H. Law, S. H. Hay, and H. H. Gooch.

Leave of Absence.—J. McDowell, S. Donnelly, and Dr. T. A. Elliott.

Minutes of South Carolina Presbytery.—S. H. Hay, W. M. Scott, and J. L. Wilson.

Minutes of Bethel Presbytery.—A. A. Morse, W. Harris, and Dr. A. Walker.

Minutes of Harmony Presbytery.—R. E. Cooper, James Douglass, and J. Birnie.

Minutes of Charleston Presbytery.—J. A. Cousar, J. McDowell, and Dr. J. B. Jennings.

The minutes of the last Synod were read; and,

On motion of J. H. Saye, it was ordered that the slight exception to the minutes taken by the last General Assembly, was owing to a clerical omission.

On motion of Dr. Buist, it was made the first order of the day for Friday, to hear Professor Lane in reference to the interests of Oglethorpe College.

J. E. White, for the Committee on Religious Exercises, reported that J. O. Lindsay preach this morning at 11 o'clock. Adopted.

Rev. J. N. Craig came into Synod, rendered satisfactory excuse for tardiness, and was enrolled.

The hour for public worship having come, Synod receded from business.

After sermon by J. O. Lindsay, Synod resumed business.

The narratives and statistical reports from the Presbyteries were then read. The narratives were referred to the Committee on the Narrative; the statistical reports are as follows, to wit:

The Presbytery of South Carolina consists of 27 ministers and 55 churches. It has organised the Walhalla church; installed Rev. J. O. Lindsay pastor of Upper Long Cane church, and Rev. W. F. Pearson pastor of Greenville church; dismissed Rev. T. B. Neill to the Presbytery of Philadelphia, and Rev. A. A. Porter, D. D., to the Presbytery of Central Texas; received Rev. T. H. Law from the Presbytery of Charleston; licensed A. P. Nicholson, J. F. Latimer, L. K. Glasgow, and Wm. C. Smith, to preach the gospel; and now has under its care 6 licentiates, and 7 candidates for the ministry.

The Presbytery of Bethel consists of 19 ministers and 34 churches; and has under its care 6 candidates. Rev. H. R. Dickson has been installed pastor of the Yorkville church, and Rev. W. W. Carothers pastor of the united churches of Allison Creek and Beth Shiloh. It has ordained and installed John L. Wilson pastor of the united churches of Bethesda and Zion, and ordained R. E. Cooper as an evangelist; and dismissed Rev. D. A. Todd to the Presbytery of Central Mississippi. Rev. R. McCoy has been received from the Presbytery of Western District, (Tenn.), and dismissed to join the Presbytery of Central Texas.

9 of its ministers are pastors, and 4 stated supplies, 1 an evangelist, 1 a professor in Davidson College, 1 is laboring in Brazil, 1 is in feeble health, and another is residing in New York.

16 of our churches sustain the pastoral relation, 9 have stated supplies, and 9 are vacant.

The Presbytery of Harmony is composed of 25 ministers and 41 churches, and has under its care 2 licentiates and 7 candidates. Rev. J. E. Dunlop has been installed pastor of Kingston church, in connection with Marion; Rev. John R. Dow has been received from Charleston Presbytery, and installed pastor of Salem (B. R.) church; Rev. W. W. Mills installed pastor of Lebanon and Horeb churches; Rev. W. B. Corbett installed pastor of Salem (L. R.) church; and Rev. E. H. Buist installed pastor of Cheraw church. The pastoral relation between Rev. W. B. Corbett and the Cheraw church has been dissolved; also, that between Rev. D. McDuffie and the churches of Pine Tree and Pisgah; Rev. James Douglass has been dismissed to join the Presbytery of Bethel, and Rev. R. Bradley to join Concord Presbytery, N. C.; and licentiate R. E. Cooper, transferred to the care of Bethel Presbytery.

Rev. T. R. English, Rev. W. C. Sutton, and licentiate A. E. Chandler, have died. Licentiate N. W. Edmonds has been ordained to the full work of the ministry, soon to be ordained pastor of Aimwell church; and candidate J. L. Martin has been licensed to preach the gospel.

30 of the churches of this Presbytery have contributed to the Sustentation Fund; 22 to Foreign Missions; 24 to Education; 19 to Publication; and 31 churches have contributed $588.38 for the Theological Seminary in Columbia.

The Presbytery of Charleston has upon its roll 17 ministers, and under its care 15 churches and 1 licentiate; it has dismissed Rev. T. H. Law to the Presbytery of South Carolina, and licentiate A. W. Gaston to the care of the Presbytery of Cherokee; and received Rev. G. J. Porter from the 2nd Presbytery of Philadelphia. It has dissolved the pastoral relation between Rev. J. B. Mack and Zion church, Charleston; and has organised Zion Colored Presbyterian church, Charleston, agreeably to the plan adopted by the last General Assembly.

On motion of J. H. Saye, the moderator was directed to appoint committees to prepare minutes relative to those ministers of Synod who have died in the past year.

On motion of Rev. S. Donnelly, the report of the committee appointed by the last Synod to examine the records of Charleston Presbytery, which had been deferred to this Synod, was now taken up and referred to the Committee on Bills and Overtures.

On motion of J. H. Saye, Rev. W. M. Reid, previously appointed to prepare for Synod a history of Mt. Zion church, was continued.

On motion of Mr. Saye, a committee was appointed on raising supplies for the Theological Seminary at Columbia. The moderator appointed J. N. Craig, Geo. Howe, D. D., A. A. Morse, W. A. Gregg, J. R. Aiken, T. A. Elliott, R. J. McCreight, and M. L. Sharpe.

Rev. R. W. Brice, of the Associate Reformed Synod of the South, being present, was invited to sit as a corresponding member.

On motion of S. Donnelly, Synod now proceeded to appoint the place for its next meeting. Anderson C. H. was unanimously chosen as the place; and the time, Wednesday, 7 p. m., before the 4th Sabbath in October, 1870.

Synod then adjourned to meet to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock. Closed with prayer by the moderator.

FRIDAY MORNING, 9 o'clock.

Synod met and spent half an hour in devotional exercises.

Rev. W. S. Plumer, D. D., Rev. J. L. Wilson, D. D., Rev. J. L. Girardeau, D. D., and J. D. A. Brown, with A. Hood, a ruling elder from Olivet church, Bethel Presbytery, appeared, rendered satisfactory excuses for tardiness, and were enrolled. Drs. Plumer and Wilson also rendered satisfactory excuses for absence from the last meeting of Synod.

Rev. E. T. Baird, D. D., of the Synod of Virginia, Secretary of the General Assembly's Committees of Education and Publication, being present, was invited to sit as a corresponding member.

On motion of Dr. Plumer, this afternoon, at 2 o'clock, was appointed to hear Dr. Baird on the interests of Education and Publication; and 7 o'clock, this evening, the time for the consideration of the subject of Foreign Missions.

Satisfactory reasons for absence from the present meeting of Synod were presented from Rev. W. H. Adams, Rev. J. E. Dunlop, and Rev. C. S. Vedder.

The minutes of yesterday were read and approved.

The moderator appointed the following committees, to wit.:

On the Death of Rev. T. R. English.—S. H. Hay, D. McQueen, and W. M. Scott.

On the Death of Rev. W. C. Sutton.—Cousar, McDowell, and Dr. Jennings.

On the Death of Rev. D. Humphreys.—Reid, J. McLees, Norris, and Dr. Walker.

J. E. White, for the Committee on Devotional Exercises, reported that Rev. Dr. Baird preach this day at 11 o'clock a. m. Adopted.

The hour having arrived for the order of the day, Synod now proceeded to consider the interests of Oglethorpe College. Mr. John L. Harris presented credentials as a commissioner to this Synod from the First and Central churches of Atlanta, Ga.; and Synod agreed to hear Mr. Harris immediately after Professor Lane, in reference to the removal of Oglethorpe College to Atlanta.

Professor Lane then gave a full and interesting account of the past usefulness and present condition of the institution. Then Mr. Harris was heard in behalf of the transfer of Oglethorpe to Atlanta, presenting some strong reasons, both pecuniary and others, for the removal of the College.

On motion of R. H. Reid, the subject was referred to a committee, consisting of Dr. Howe, J. O. Lindsay, R. H. Reid, W. B. Corbett, and D. McQueen.

The hour for public worship having arrived, Synod receded from business.

After sermon by Dr. Baird, Synod resumed business.

Dr. Wilson then presented the following paper:

Whereas, it appears that many of the ministers of this Synod are, from one cause or other, occupied more or less in secular pursuits, and that thereby much of their time and strength are lost to the Church, therefore

Resolved, 1. That the Presbyteries be affectionately enjoined to remove, as far as practicable, all such causes, and tenderly but firmly to use their authority to the end that ministers give their whole time and care to that work for which they were solemnly set apart by their ordination vows.

2. That they also be affectionately enjoined to see that all the churches do really relieve their pastors from worldly cares, by furnishing them with an adequate support, according to the standard fixed by the General Assembly.

3. That Presbyteries be affectionately enjoined to discourage the system of stated supplies extending through a series of years, especially in cases where inability to support a pastor cannot be pleaded as a necessity.

4. That in the judgment of this Synod, the Presbyteries should make diligent and faithful inquiry into the profitableness of established pastoral relations within their bounds, and interpose their counsel and authority to secure the dissolution of such as are manifestly injurious to the cause of Christ.

5. That Synod enjoin upon its Presbyteries to make full reports to this body, at its next session, touching the consecration by their ministers of their time and strength to their peculiar work, and of the manner in which each church contributes to the support of their pastors.

On motion of Dr. Buist, the paper was received for consideration; and on motion of D. McQueen, it was considered *seriatim*. The adoption of the *first* resolution was then moved; pending the discussion on which, the hour arrived for hearing Dr. Baird on the subjects of Education and Publication.

Dr. Baird was then heard in relation to these subjects; after which, on motion of Dr. Plumer, a committee of one from each Presbytery in the Synod was appointed to prepare a minute relative thereto.

Dr. Girardeau, Dow, Craig, and Morse, were appointed on this committee.

Dr. Plumer then offered a paper with certain resolutions, which was placed on the docket.

Mr. John McLintock, ruling elder from the church at Laurens C. H., appeared in Synod, rendered satisfactory reasons for tardiness, and was enrolled.

S. H. Hay, in behalf of the committee appointed to prepare a minute on the death of Rev. T. R. English, asked that the committee be continued until next Synod; and the request was granted.

The same permission was granted to the committee appointed to prepare a minute relative to the death of Rev. D. Humphreys.

On motion of J. N. Craig, the report of the Committee on Supplies for the Theological Seminary was made the order of the day for to-morrow at 10 a. m.

The consideration of the paper introduced by Dr. Wilson was now resumed, when the first resolution was adopted; and

On motion of Dr. Plumer, the second resolution was adopted.

On motion of Dr. Girardeau, the third resolution was adopted.

On motion of W. E. Boggs, the fourth resolution was adopted.

On motion of H. R. Dickson, the fifth resolution was adopted.

And, on motion of Dr. Howe, the paper as a whole was adopted.

Synod then receded from business until 7 o'clock p. m.

FRIDAY EVENING, 7 o'clock.

Synod assembled and resumed business.

The subject of Foreign Missions was considered, the services being conducted by Rev. Dr. Plumer. Addresses were made by

Rev. Dr. Wilson, Rev. J. H. Colton, Rev. Dr. Buist, and Rev. Dr. Girardeau. A collection of $138.25 was made for the cause; and on motion of J. H. Saye a committee was appointed to bring in a minute on the subject of Foreign Missions. The moderator appointed on this committee Saye, Brackett, and McLaurin.

A. A. Morse, from the committee on the Minutes of Bethel Presbytery, reported that they had examined the same and found them correctly and neatly kept; and recommend that they be approved as far as recorded. The report was adopted.

J. H. Saye presented a paper on the History of the Presbyterian Church in South Carolina by Rev. Dr. Howe, which was placed on the docket.

Synod then adjourned, with prayer, till to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock.

SATURDAY MORNING, 9 o'clock.

Synod met and spent half an hour in devotional exercises.

The minutes of the preceding day were read and approved.

W. W. Ratchford, from the Committee on the Minutes of the General Assembly, presented a report, which, on motion of Dr. Plumer, was recommitted; and W. B. Corbett was added to the Committee as chairman, in place of W. A. Gregg, who has leave of absence.

Rev. Professor J. Monroe Anderson appeared in Synod, gave satisfactory reasons for tardiness, and was enrolled.

Rev. R. B. Anderson, of the Synod of North Carolina, being present, was invited to sit as a corresponding member.

J. H. Saye, from the Committee on Foreign Missions, now presented the following report:

The Committee appointed to bring in a minute to express the views of Synod in reference to the work of Foreign Missions, recommend the following:

Synod continues its oft-repeated testimony to the exceedingly great importance of this work. It recognises fully its obligations to the great Head of the Church to preach the gospel to all nations, to hold forth the word of life till all men shall know the truth as it is in Jesus. Synod would express and record its joy and gratitude on this occasion for the evidence exhibited of an increase of the spirit of missions in our own Church, and of the success of the cause in heathen countries in the last fifty years. Truly the great Head of the Church has set the seal of his approbation upon the efforts of his people to extend his kingdom. In view of all these manifold blessings, be it resolved by Synod:

I. That we realise the imperative obligations resting upon us as a part of Christ's Church, to preach the gospel in all countries, and to honor the Lord with our substance in sustaining his cause in all lands.

II. In order that all our people may be brought up fully to this work, we recommend that all our ministers and church sessions make this part of Christian duty and privilege prominent in the exercises of the sanctuary; and that attention be given to the circulation of religious newspapers and such periodicals as are adapted to diffuse knowledge and excite zeal on this subject among our congregations.

III. That in view of the facts brought before us on this subject, as to the progress of Christian principles in lands recently heathen, Synod is called upon to make a public manifestation of its gratitude and joy for these tokens of favor from the God of Israel to his people, and that so soon as this paper is adopted, the Synod will sing a song of praise, and that a prayer be offered under the direction of the Moderator as an expression of our appreciation of the kindness of our Heavenly Father.

IV. That the Rev. W. E. Boggs be appointed to preach, at the next annual meeting of Synod, a sermon on Foreign Missions; and that the Rev. James McDowell be his alternate.

On motion of Dr. Plumer, the fourth resolution was stricken out, and the following inserted, viz.:

That at each meeting of Synod, instead of a sermon on the subject of Foreign Missions, arrangements shall be made to have a public meeting and addresses.

The report was then adopted; after which the 586th hymn was sung, and then prayer was offered by Dr. Howe.

Dr. Girardeau, from the Committee on Education and Publication, presented the following report, which, on motion of J. G. Richards, was adopted, as follows, to wit:

The Committee to whom were referred the subjects of Education and Publication, as presented by the Assembly's Secretary, would respectfully submit to Synod the following resolutions:

1. That the Synod has, with great pleasure, heard the statements of the Rev. E. T. Baird, D. D., in regard to the important interests of Education and Publication.

2. That in view of the remarkable increase in the number of candidates for the ministry, the Synod feels profoundly the necessity of vigorous endeavors to provide the funds required to assist these candidates in their preparations for the great work to which they are called, and hereby urges ministers and sessions to give special attention to the collection for Education, appointed by the Assembly to be made on the first Sabbath of November.

3. That the Synod has heard, with pain and surprise, the statements of the Assembly's Secretary that many of the ministers and people of our Church purchase largely from other sources the books which our own Committee at Richmond is prepared to sell at the same prices as those at which they can be bought in New York or Philadelphia; that it solemnly calls attention to the fact that such a course seriously cripples our Committee in its efforts to furnish a sound and healthful religious literature to

our churches, and tends to imbue the minds of our children and youth with doctrines and sentiments foreign to those of our standards, and that the Synod hereby earnestly exhorts the ministers, sessions, and people, in its connexion, to procure books for families and Sabbath-schools from the Assembly's Committee at Richmond.

4. That the Synod calls the attention of the churches to the special collection for Publication ordered by the Assembly to be made on the first Sabbath of March; and also to the necessity for increased effort to complete the endowment of the Committee of Publication, which is imperatively needed to equip it fully for the work it was designed to achieve.

5. That the Synod send up an overture to the next General Assembly, recommending that the amount necessary to complete the endowment of the Committee of Publication be apportioned among the several Presbyteries.

Rev. J. N. Craig, from the Committee on the Theological Seminary, made the following report, which, on motion of Rev. J. B. Mack, was adopted, viz.:

The Committee on the Theological Seminary report: That it is with great gratitude that we have learned that the rich blessings of God have rested, for the past year, upon this institution, which, as we trust, has been established for his glory. The lives of the Faculty and students have been spared, and their health has been such as to call for our profound thanksgivings. Last year there were twenty-six students present, of whom eight completed their course. There are now twenty-seven students present, and five or six more expected. The coupons upon some bonds held by the Seminary, which coupons have been accumulating for several years, have been paid in large part; so that the funds of the Seminary from this source, and from the contributions from the Presbyteries, have been sufficient to pay the salaries of the Faculty up to the first day of October.

The Board of Directors have informed us there will this year be needed from this Synod only half the amount apportioned to us, namely that only ($1250) twelve hundred and fifty dollars will this year be needed from the South Carolina Synod in order to defray the expenses of the Seminary; but further information has been received by the Committee, convincing us fully that a contribution considerably larger than that suggested by the Board of Directors ought to be made; and the Committee therefore recommend that the Synod of South Carolina be called upon to raise the sum of eighteen hundred dollars during the present year, and that it be apportioned to the Presbyteries as follows, viz.:

Harmony Presbytery, - - -	$550 00
South Carolina Presbytery, - - -	550 00
Bethel Presbytery - - - -	400 00
Charleston Presbytery, - - -	300 00

The Committee further suggest that Dr. Howe and Dr. Plumer, being present, be requested to address the Synod upon the interests of the Seminary.

J. A. Cousar, from the Committee to prepare a minute relative to the death of Rev. W. C. Sutton, presented the following, which was adopted, viz.:

The Rev. W. C. Sutton was born in Rowan County, N. C., of poor parentage, of Scotch-Irish descent. He received the most of his classical education at the Caldwell Institute, under the tuition of Rev. Alexander Wilson, D. D., Mr. Lindsley, and John A. Gretter. Being now straitened for means to pursue his theological course, he taught nearly four years. A part of that time he assisted W. J. Bingham in his school at Hillsboro. In the fall of 1840 he entered the Union Theological Seminary, Virginia. He was licensed to preach the gospel by Orange Presbytery in October, 1842, and ordained and installed pastor of Little River church, Orange County, N. C., in November, 1843, where he preached three years. In July, 1844, he was married to Martha A. Wilson, his surviving widow. In 1845, he moved to Mecklenburg County and preached one year at Philadelphia church. From there he moved to Anson County and took charge of Lebanon church, and soon after reorganised Pisgah church, in the bounds of Harmony Presbytery. In this field he labored ten years. In December, 1857, he moved to Marion District, S. C., and preached three years as stated supply at Little Pee Dee church. He was then without charge for eight years. During this time he supplied the churches of Rev. H. M. Brearley and Rev. J. A. Cousar, while they were absent in the army. In the mean time he removed, in February, 1864, to Robeson County, N. C., where he resided till his death. He died after a protracted illness on the 13th of February, 1869, in the fifty-fourth year of his age, in full possession of his mental faculties. Sustained by a firm and unwavering trust in Jesus, and the blessed hope of the gospel, "his last end was peace." Brother Sutton had a sound well balanced mind and a clear judgment. He was a good scholar, without any pretension to scholarship. As a preacher, his delivery was dry, but the matter of his sermons was good. He rarely gave expression to his religious views or feelings; but his most intimate friends, who knew him best, had the utmost confidence in his piety and the integrity of his character as a Christian. The ladies of Ashpole church, N. C., many of whom belonged to his Bible class, in testimony of their affection for him, have erected a very neat marble slab over his grave. He sleeps in Jesus till the morning of the resurrection; and may the blessing of a covenant-keeping God, into whose hands he committed them, rest upon his surviving widow and seven fatherless children.

J. A. Cousar, from the Committee on the Minutes of Charleston Presbytery, presented the following report, viz.:

The Clerk has done his duty faithfully; the book is neatly kept; and your committee would recommend its approval, with two exceptions, viz.:

1. The book has not been approved by Synod since 1866.

2. The Presbytery held several meetings and transacted business without a quorum, no ruling elders being present.

Two of these were regular meetings.

On motion of Dr. Girardeau, this report was referred to the Committee on Bills and Overtures.

D. McQueen, from the Committee on Bills and Overtures, presented the following report, which, on motion of Dr. Plumer, was adopted, to wit:

The Committee on Bills and Overtures would report to Synod that there have been two decisions of the Old Assembly—one in 1843, and one

in 1844—affirming the right of a Presbytery to transact business without the presence of a ruling elder.

The contrary of this is embraced in the rule defining the quorum of a Presbytery in the new "Book of Church Order," which is now sent down to the Presbyteries for their adoption or rejection. Under these circumstances, without passing any censure upon Charleston Presbytery, this Synod submits the question which is involved to our next General Assembly for its decision.

S. H. Hay, from the Committee on the Minutes of South Carolina Presbytery reported, "that they had examined the same; find them well kept; and recommend their approval, with the exception, that the narrative to the General Assembly is not recorded." The report was adopted.

Mr. W. M. Guy, from the united churches of Zion and Bethesda, Bethel Presbytery, appeared in Synod, rendered satisfactory reasons for tardiness, and was enrolled.

Dr. Howe, from the Committee on Oglethorpe College, made the following report, which, on motion of Dr. Buist, was adopted:

The Committee on Oglethorpe College, represented before this body by Prof. Lane, recommend the following resolutions to the Synod for its adoption:

1. *Resolved*, That the Synod is deeply impressed with the value of Oglethorpe College, in years past, as an institution which has contributed much to the religious training of our youth, and the increase of our ministry; and that if the Synods of Georgia and Alabama shall resolve on its revival as a college, this Synod will do what is in its power towards its restoration.

2. That, in this case, the question of its removal to Atlanta be remitted to the Synod of Georgia, which is far better able to judge upon the expediency and desirableness of this removal than we are.

3. That this Synod accepts the resignation of Prof. Lane, and expresses its thanks for the valuable and able services rendered by him in his connexion with the College in past years.

4. That the Synod has heard with pleasure of the election of Rev. Geo. L. Petrie, to the professorship vacated by Prof. Lane.

5. That as the professorship formerly endowed in this Synod for Oglethorpe, amounting to $28,000 or more, has been lost in our late reverses, with the exception of a few hundred dollars, the Synod would recommend to the Board of Trustees, in case the College goes forward, as is supposed, to employ some agency to raise annually the sum which may be needed for the professor's salary within the bounds of this Synod.

6. The committee would nominate Rev. Robert H. Reid and Col. James Farrow, from the Presbytery of South Carolina, to serve one year; Rev. D. McQueen and T. B. Fraser, from Harmony Presbytery, to serve two years; and Rev. J. L. Girardeau, D. D., and William Harral, from the Presbytery of Charleston, to serve three years, as Trustees of Oglethorpe College.

The hour for public worship having arrived, Synod receded from business.

After sermon by Prof. Lane, Synod resumed business.

Prof. Anderson was then, on invitation of the Synod, heard concerning the interests of Davidson College. He gave a very encouraging account of the present prosperous condition of the College.

The paper presented yesterday, by Dr. Plumer, was now taken from the docket, and read; and, on motion of A. A. Morse, was adopted. It is as follows, viz.:

Whereas we are wholly dependent on the presence and power of the Holy Spirit for the success of all the ministrations of the gospel, both in the conversion of sinners, and in the edification of believers; *and whereas* the harvest is great and the laborers are few, there being in our bounds large and important fields with few or no ministers to labor statedly in them: *Therefore, resolved*—

I. That earnest and importunate prayer be made by all the churches for a glorious outpouring of the Holy Spirit in all our borders, that the cause of Christ may be revived, and the work of God carried on gloriously.

II. That it be recommended to our ministers and elders to arrange such meetings as will bring two, three or more of our ministers together, to give their united testimony for several days to the blessed truths of the gospel, and to help together, by prayer, that the Lord may again visit us and make us glad with the tokens of his love.

III. That it is recommended to our ministers and people to consider the propriety of uniting fasting with prayer, in the hope that God will look upon us in our afflictions, and send us early and abundant help from the sanctuary.

IV. That the subject of a call to the sacred office is a proper matter of pastoral instruction, and that yet our hope for an adequate number of competent ministers is in the adorable Head of the Church, who calls, qualifies, and makes efficient all truly useful heralds of the cross.

J. H. Saye called up from the docket his resolutions concerning Dr. Howe's History of the Presbyterian Church in South Carolina; and, on motion of A. A. Morse, the paper was read and adopted, and is as follows:

The Committee to whom was referred the matter of the publication of the history of the Presbyterian Church in South Carolina, by the Rev. Geo. Howe, D. D., would beg leave to report: That, in pursuance of the terms of their appointment, they have conferred with Dr. Woodrow and other publishers in regard to terms of publication; that in accordance with these proposed terms, they issued a Prospectus for the publication of the aforesaid History, at as early a day as may be convenient, in order to test the practicability of the publication without loss to the proprietor. From the returns made of actual subscribers, and the pledges made by responsible persons, your committee regard the fact demonstrated, that this History may be published without loss to any party concerned. *Be it therefore resolved*, by Synod—

I. That Dr. Howe be requested to publish his History of the Presbyterian Church in South Carolina, as far as completed, and to distribute the same to the subscribers now obtained, or that may yet be obtained, in ac-

cordance with the terms set forth in the Prospectus issued by your committee.

II. That Dr. Howe be requested, and he hereby is requested, to continue the History of the Presbyterian Church in this State to the year A. D. 1850; and that he be requested to embody such notices of other denominations in the State as he may be able and think expedient.

III. That our ministers and people in this State, and all others who may feel an interest in such matters, be earnestly requested to promote the circulation of this work.

IV. That all persons who may have copies of the Prospectus in their hands, be requested to send them to Dr. Howe, with their subscribers, by the last day of next November.

W. B. Corbett, from the Committee on the Minutes of the General Assembly, made the following report, which was received, to wit:

The Committee on the Minutes of the General Assembly, beg leave to report:

That on page 376, Overture No. 5, "Is it contrary to our standards for one of our ministers to remain the permanent supply of a church of another denomination—for example, a Congregational church?" was answered in the affirmative by the Assembly. Your committee recommend that this Synod concur in this decision.

On same page, Overture No. 9, "Is it an infraction of our standards for one of our ministers to baptize the infant child of a parent, or the ward of a guardian standing in *loco parentis*, who has not professed personal faith in Christ, but who was baptized in infancy?" was answered in the affirmative. Your committee recommend that Synod concur also in this decision.

On page 390, Overture No. 11, asking "whether any number of ministers and elders from two Presbyteries alone can, under any circumstances, be regarded as a constitutional quorum for the transaction of Synodical business?" was answered by Assembly in the negative. Your committee recommend also that Synod concur in this decision.

On page 388, in the report on Education adopted by the Assembly, the last Thursday in February is appointed as a day of prayer for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon the youth of the churches and institutions of learning, and for God's blessing upon this cause. Your committee recommends this resolution: that all of our churches are affectionately urged to observe the day appointed for prayer, and to join to their prayer, hearty thanksgiving to God for the encouragement vouchsafed to us in this work.

On page 391, Overture No. 13, requests the Assembly "to adopt some plan whereby Presbyteries may be authorised to license as lay preachers or exhorters such persons as may be found qualified in mind and heart to instruct and edify the churches, without requiring of them that course of literary and theological education, which is required for our regular ministry." In answer to which the General Assembly expresses its approval of "Presbyteries granting permission to persons of suitable gifts to hold meetings and speak the word of exhortation to churches in their respective bounds with the consent of sessions, where such exist, and also in destitute neighborhoods; such persons being required to abstain from assuming the proper functions of the ministry, and being held subject to the control of Presbytery." Your committee recommends that Synod concur in ap-

proving such action on the part of Presbyteries: *provided,* that persons thus to labor obtain the consent of the sessions where such exist, and do not assume the proper functions of the ministry, and are under control of Presbytery.

On page 389, in the report of the Special Committee in regard to a plan of operation among the colored people, adopted by the Assembly, 4th Section proposes, "that a committee may be appointed by each Synod to carry, in co-operation with pastors and Presbyterial evangelists, this scheme into effect as far as practicable in its bounds; one member of each committee to act as evangelist among the colored people, and to receive his support, in part, from the Assembly's Committee of Sustentation."

Your committee respectfully submit their opinion, that a part only of this plan thus suggested to the Synods is expedient at the present time, and recommend the adoption of the following resolutions:

1. *Resolved,* That a Standing Committee of Synod be now appointed, in order to carry out, as far as may be practicable within our bounds, the scheme of operation among the colored people, recommended by the General Assembly to the Synods and Presbyteries.

2. *Resolved,* That this committee be located in Columbia, consisting of Rev. Drs. Plumer and Adger, Rev. W. E. Boggs, and ruling elder E. Stenhouse.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

On motion of Dr. Plumer, the report was taken up for consideration *seriatim.* The *first item* relating to overture 5, was taken up. Dr. Plumer moved that this subject be referred to a committee, with instructions to report at the next meeting of Synod. The motion was lost.

On motion of Rev. J. McDowell, this first item was adopted.

The *second item* was then taken up pending the discussion, on which Synod took recess until 5 o'clock p. m.

EVENING SESSION, 5 o'clock.

Synod convened and resumed business.

T. H. Law, from the Committee on the Narrative, presented the following report, which was adopted, viz.:

NARRATIVE.

The Committee on the Narrative beg leave to submit the following report to Synod:

A review of the religious state of the Church in the bounds of the Synod of South Carolina, as exhibited by the reports of the four Presbyteries which compose this body, leads us to exclaim with our Saviour, "The harvest truly is great, but the laborers are few." The lack of ministerial laborers to occupy the field and gather in the wheat which is "white unto the harvest," is the cry which comes from every quarter. Many, very many of our churches are vacant; some of which seldom enjoy the services of a minister; others, only the occasional visits of an evangelist; and, others still, much less of regular service than they desire. The result of this state of things is, that some have become discouraged and despondent, and "the ways of Zion languish," while others perhaps have been quickened in their desires for the ordinances of God's house.

But while we are called to lament this sad destitution in ministerial service, we have reason to rejoice and thank God for the wonderful and gracious manner in which he has answered our oft-repeated prayer, "to send forth laborers into his harvest." The number of young men presenting themselves for the holy work of the ministry, despite the outward discouragements which exist in the peculiar self-denials and hardships which these servants of God are now called to undergo, is unprecedented in our history. One Presbytery has 12 licentiates and candidates under its care, another 9, and another 6—making thus 27 young men who have actually consecrated themselves to this work, and entered upon direct preparation for it. And there are, doubtless, many more whose purpose is determined in regard to this matter, and who will ere long come forward before the Church.

It is also cause for gratification that our Presbyteries are endeavoring to supply this lack of service by evangelistic labor; and that while some of our ministers are still dividing their time, and expending their energies in secular pursuits, yet those who are engaged in their proper calling, are generally manifesting increased activity and zeal in the Master's cause. Some are endeavoring to do double service, and others to apply themselves more diligently to their own special work.

Our churches too begin to indicate greater life and energy than in former days. Some are rejoicing in the reviving influences of the Holy Ghost, and many are hungering for the bread of life, and calling for undershepherds to come and break it to them. The ordinances of the sanctuary appear to be well attended and highly prized; Sabbath-schools and Bible classes, as auxiliary agencies in religious instruction, are receiving much attention, and the duty of worshipping God in the stated and regular communication of earthly substance, is perhaps more generally and fully ob-

served than ever before. All these things are signs of vitality, and indicate, we trust, the presence of God's Spirit in our body.

All the Presbyteries make mention in their reports of the colored people, but the picture presented in regard to them is generally discouraging; yet Charleston Presbytery reports some things which are cheering in reference to this class. One large church has been organised on the plan set forth by the last Assembly, and is in a flourishing state. And other congregations of this people give signs of the Spirit's presence and power.

Upon the whole, the Synod feels called upon to bless God, take courage, and go forward with fresh zeal and energy in the glorious work to which the blessed Master has called us.

J. McDowell, from the Committee on Leave of Absence, presented the following report, which was adopted, viz.:

The following persons have been excused for absence from the last meeting of Synod: R. H. Reid, J. A. Cousar, D. Harrison, J. D. A. Brown, and W. W. Ratchford.

The following for absence from the present meeting: S. J. Price and E. F. Hyde.

Leave of absence has been granted to W. W. Carothers, after Thursday; and to the following after Friday night, W. S. Brand, Joel Ashford, E. Stenhouse and Dr. J. L. Wilson. To the following after 12 o'clock to-day: J. N. Craig and Col. R. G. Davidson. After 3 o'clock to-day: W. B. Corbett, T. W. Erwin, James Douglass, R. E. Cooper, J. D. A. Brown, D. Harrison, W. W. Ratchford, P. Pierson, A. Hood, and D. T. Partlow.

On motion of Dr. Howe, Synod resolved to have five hundred copies of the minutes of the present sessions published and distributed among the churches.

Mr. J. R. Aiken, from the Committee on Finance, presented the following report, which was adopted, viz.:

The sums assessed upon the Presbyteries composing the Synod of South Carolina, respectively, have all been received for the year ending in October, 1869, and paid over to the Treasurer of Synod. The amount assessed for the previous year on the Presbytery of South Carolina, was sent to Dr. Woodrow of Columbia, subject to the order of the Treasurer of Synod.

We recommend, in order to pay the clerk's salary, and for the publication of the Minutes, the following assessment for the coming year: South Carolina Presbytery, $50; Harmony, $50; Bethel, $35; Charleston, $35.

Rev. J. E. White, from the Committee on Devotional Services, presented the following report, which was adopted, to wit:

Rev. W. E. Boggs preach Saturday night at 7 o'clock.

Sabbath: Dr. J. L. Girardeau preach at half-past 10 o'clock a. m.
Dr. Howe introduce sacramental services and distribute the bread.
D. E. Frierson distribute the wine and close the services.
R. H. Reid preach at half-past 3 o'clock p. m.
Dr. Plumer preach at 7 o'clock p. m.

A collection in behalf of the Theological Seminary at the morning services.

Baptist Church.—T. H. Law at half-past 10 o'clock a. m.
S. H. Hay at 7 o'clock p. m.

Methodist Church.—E. H. Buist at half past 10 a. m.
J. McDowell at 7 p. m.

Colored Methodist Church.—J. B. Mack at half-past 10 o'clock. a. m.

Court House.—Dr. Girardeau at half-past 3 p. m.

Methodist Church.—Prof. Lane address children of Sabbath schools at half-past 3 p. m.

On motion of Dr. Girardeau, the Committee on Leave of Absence was directed, hereafter, not to grant leave of absence to any ministers, unless under extraordinary circumstances, going off to preach during the sessions of Synod.

The *second item* of the report of the Committee on the Minutes of the Assembly was then taken up. Dr. Buist moved to lay it on the table. The motion was lost.

On motion of Dr. Girardeau, item second of the report was adopted.

On motion of E. H. Buist, item third was adopted.

On motion of J. B. Mack, item fourth was adopted.

On motion of J. McDowell, item fifth was adopted.

On motion of J. O. Lindsay, item sixth was adopted.

On motion of J. G. Richards, the paper as a whole was adopted.

Dr. Girardeau presented the following paper, which, on motion of J. G. Richards, was laid on the table, viz.:

Resolved, That it is the judgment of this Synod that Oglethorpe University should be withdrawn, as soon as practicable, from the immediate control of the church courts, and be placed under management of a Board of Directors, with suitable guarantees that the funds will never be used to propagate views contrary to our standards; and that the curriculum of study shall embrace instructions in the distinctive principles of the Presbyterian Church.

The Committee on the Minutes of Harmony Presbytery reported that they had examined the same and found them correct, and recommended their approval. The report was adopted.

Synod then took recess until after public worship.

After sermon by W. E. Boggs, Synod resumed business.

On motion of Dr. Buist, Synod passed the following resolutions:

1. *Resolved*, That the thanks of this Synod are due, and are hereby tendered, to the different Railroad companies in South Carolina for the facilities afforded by them to the members of the Synod and the students of the Theological Seminary in passing over their roads to and from this meeting.

2. Also to the citizens of Chester for their great hospitality to the members of Synod, and the students of the Theological Seminary.

3. Also to the churches of this place for their Christian courtesy in placing their pulpits at the disposal of Synod on this occasion.

4. That the pastor of this church be requested to communicate these resolutions in whatever manner he may think best.

The minutes of this day were read and approved.

On motion of Dr. Buist, Synod then adjourned to meet at Anderson C. H. on Wednesday before the fourth Sabbath in October, 1870, at 7 o'clock p. m.

Closed with singing, prayer, and the apostolic benediction.

D. E. FRIERSON, *Moderator.*

J. B. MACK, *Temporary Clerk.*
WM. BANKS, *Stated Clerk.*